

Pia Guldager Bilde (1961–2013)

We are deeply saddened by the untimely death on the 10th of January of Pia Guldager Bilde, one of the founding members (and the first secretary) of our Association.

Born on the 11th of February 1961, Pia studied Classical Archaeology at the University of Copenhagen. She was appointed Assistant Professor at the Institute of Classical Archaeology at the University of Aarhus in 1996, and served from 2002 to 2010 as director of the Danish National Research Foundation's Centre for Black Sea Studies. At the same time, she participated in - and directed - archaeological fieldwork in Cyprus, Italy and the Crimea.

An unusually intelligent, indefatigable and versatile scholar, Pia published extensively on numerous subjects, but Hellenistic pottery always remained closest to her heart, and those of us who were present at the conference in Cologne in the spring of 2011 will vividly remember the two excellent papers she presented on this occasion. Pia had almost completed a major monograph on mould-made bowls of the Black Sea region, when she later that year tragically had a relapse of the cancer, with which she had first been diagnosed in 2003. Always a fighter, she refused to give up right to the end.

Sorely missed, the Association has decided to dedicate the forthcoming conference in Berlin to Pia's memory.